

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.
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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOVEY THEATRE, Broadway—LAWSON—JACK SHEP-
PARD.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—ST. CYPRIEN—DIVERS
AMUSEMENTS—LOVE, LAW AND LUTHER.

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street—ST. CYPRIEN—
FARM AND LONDON.

NATIONAL THEATRE, Chatham street—MILLER'S
MIND—ON THE GREAT.

WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway—LADY OF LYONS—
REVIEW.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—AFTERNOON—VILLAGE GOSPEL—
BURN TUTOR. EVENING—OLD FOLKS AT HOME.

CHRISTY'S OPERA HOUSE, 412 Broadway—EMERSON
REPRESENTED BY CHERRY'S OPERA HOUSE.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS, Wood's Musical Hall, 444 Broad-
way—EMERSON'S MINSTRELS.

CIRCUS, 37 Broadway—BURTON'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

GEORAMA, 586 Broadway—BANDS—PANDORA OF
THE HOLY LAND.

MILLYN'S SORCERER'S MYSTERIES, 539 Broadway.

REXLEY'S THEATRE, 416 Broadway.

HOPE CHAPEL, Broadway—GRAND CONCERT.

New York, Tuesday, February 15, 1853.

Mails for Europe.

THE NEW YORK WEEKLY HERALD.

The royal mail steamship Canada will leave Boston at
noon to-morrow, for Liverpool.

Subscriptions and advertisements, for any edition of
the NEW YORK HERALD, will be received at the following
places in Europe—

LIVERPOOL—John Hunter, No. 2 Paradise street.

LONDON—Edward Sandford & Co., Cornhill.

PARIS—Livingston, Wells & Co., Rue de la Bourse.

B. H. Revell, No. 17 Rue de la Banque.

The European mails will close in this city at one and
three o'clock this afternoon. The WEEKLY HERALD will
be published at half-past nine o'clock A. M.

Single copies, in wrappers, sixpence.

The News.

The voice of Young America has at length been
heard upon our foreign policy. The speech of Judge
Douglas in the United States Senate yesterday, upon
the Monroe doctrine and Cuba resolutions of Gen.
Cass, will be read with marked attention by all
classes of politicians, for the reason that it may be
considered as forming the basis on which Young
America intends to operate during the next Presi-
dential campaign. The materials for the platform
of the party are there, and all that remains to be
done is to place them together. The area which the
structure is to cover will be very extensive—reach-
ing, as it does, from one end of the continent to the
other, and from sea to sea.

In the early part of the day the Senate made several
amendments to the Deficiency Appropriation
bill, among which was one to provide for the fitting
up of the assayer's office at San Francisco, and to
have bullion cast into bars of not less than three
ounces. In the course of the debate, Mr. Borland
declared that there were facts, which, when dis-
closed, would show that the expenditure of public
money had not for years been conducted on prin-
ciples of common honesty and justice.

The House of Representatives spent nearly the
whole day upon the Swamp Land bill, which was
eventually tabled, and there ordered to remain. The
order establishing evening sessions was abolished,
and a couple of private bills were passed.

The Smith family seem destined to create an ex-
citement wherever they go. It is fortunate for the
friends of peace and the anti-progressivists, that
they are not very prolific. It was but a short time
ago that all Cuba, the greater portion of Europe, and
a small part of America were set in commotion by
"the individual" known as Purer Smith. Scarcely
had that hubbub died away, ere one of the seven
gentlemen of the same name in the New York As-
sembly, put that body in a complete uproar by man-
ifesting his independence in refusing to vote, for
which exhibition of self-will he was arrested by
order of the Speaker. This case occupied the atten-
tion of that august body during a large portion of
Saturday, and the whole of yesterday. Really, if the
name of Smith is not handed down to posterity, it
will not be in consequence of their inactivity. Read
the Legislative proceedings.

Our despatch from Concord announces that Gen.
Pierce left that place yesterday afternoon, en route
for Washington, and may be expected in this city
to-night or to-morrow. In compliance with the
wishes expressed in his letter, published under our
city head yesterday, it is hoped that no unnecessary
exhibition of spirits will be manifested by the demo-
cracy along the line of route. The despatch declares
that the Cabinet is "a fixed fact," but who is to com-
pose it is only known to those who are to fill the dif-
ferent posts. By the way, the democratic members
of the North Carolina Legislature are reported to
have re-nominated Gen. James C. Dobbin as their
candidate for United States senator, in place of Hon.
W. P. Mangum. This places Gen. Dobbin without
the Cabinet. There's some information.

The strike of the railroad mechanics for higher
wages, at Baltimore, threatens to become general.
By reference to the despatch from Baltimore, it will
be seen that the operatives on some of the Penn-
sylvania roads, in addition to the workmen in Alex-
andria, Portsmouth, and Norfolk, have knocked off
and refuse to go to work again until their demands
are acceded to. Several thousand men have thus
thrown themselves out of employment, and every
day is adding to their numbers. Where will all this
end?

The foreign news, per the Niagara, produced no
change in cotton, while it caused a decline in State
securities of from 12c. a 15c. per barrel. Corn and wheat
were also heavier—the latter being unsaleable ex-
cept at a concession in favor of buyers.

Both Boards of Aldermen met last evening, and
transacted a considerable amount of ordinary business.
In the lower Board, Assistant Alderman Wheeler
offered a resolution to the effect that the Commis-
sioner of Streets and Lamps shall illuminate the City
Hall upon the evening of the 22d instant, in com-
memoration of Washington's birthday, and that the
Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies cause the
transparency to be exhibited in front of the Hall.
Adopted unanimously. A report of the Committee
on Police, with a resolution to allow two doormen for
duty in the office of the Chief, was read. The report
was accepted, and the resolution adopted. The
Chief is to nominate two officers for the approval of
his Honor the Mayor.

Last evening, at Metropolitan Hall, Mr. T. P.
Meagher delivered an eloquent and masterly lecture
on "Grattan and the Volunteers of 1792." The im-
mense Hall was completely filled. The Mayor pre-
sided, and introduced Mr. Meagher to the audience,
who received him with the most enthusiastic demon-
strations of applause. Besides the Mayor, there was
a large number of respectable citizens on the plat-
form, and two captains of Irish regiments, in uniform,
and recalled the era of the Volunteers, who were a similar
uniform. Manhattan's hand was in attendance, and
discussed most excellent music—performing both
the national airs of Ireland and the United States.
With great elation.

Mr. Orestes A. Brownson, of Boston, delivered a very
able and eloquent lecture to a large audience, at
Hope Chapel, Broadway, last evening—subject,
"Gregory the Seventh, and the Papal Power." He
contended that the aspersions which had been cast
upon Pope Gregory by popular writers and speakers,
for his interference with the "divine right of kings,"
were unfounded, for that he had never attempted to

infringe on their power so long as it was exercised
with justice and humanity. He concluded his lec-
ture amid considerable applause, by expressing his
belief that the time was not far distant when this
country would be Catholic, and when the clean sac-
rifice would be offered in from the rising to the
setting sun; and that it did not become men to pro-
voke the power of God, and deny the power which
He has granted to his vicereger here below. The
length of the Comptroller's report compels us to omit
this lecture for the present.

The trial of W. M. Doty, charged with perjury in
the Forrest divorce case, was commenced yesterday
in the Court of Sessions. Nothing was done beyond
empanelling the jury, and the case will be opened
this morning. Judging from the array of counsel
and witnesses, it will probably occupy the remainder
of the term.

In our legal intelligence will be found a very im-
portant report of a case instituted in the Supreme
Court, against the Mayor and Commonalty of the city
of New York, for alleged illegal alienation of corpo-
ration property. It is due to Recorder Tilton and
the Chamberlain to say that these gentlemen dis-
sented from and protested against the act now com-
plained of.

Capt. Elisha M. Fitch, of the steamship Washing-
ton, was yesterday evening acquitted of the charge
of smuggling, which was under investigation for
three days last week.

Important Document.—The First Report of
the New City Comptroller.

We publish to-day the first annual report of
Mr. Flagg, the new City Comptroller, presented to
the Common Council last evening. It is the
most important document, as regards the interests
of this great city, that has ever emanated from
any department of the city government. Never has
such a voluminous, able and interesting
report been issued by any of his predecessors in
office.

It is a paper of great length; but when we
take into consideration the fact that it covers
the whole ground of our city government, laying
bare the frauds that have been perpetrated, the
reckless and wanton expenditure, the frightful
abuses, increasing and multiplying every year,
the corrupt and illegal courses that have been
pursued, the flagrant violations of the charter,
and the alarming progress of taxation, threat-
ening, at no distant day, to overwhelm the city
with ruin, we come to the conclusion that instead
of being too long, the report is remarkable for
its comparative brevity, comprising, as it does,
in a condensed form, an immense mass of well
digested matter, arranged under appropriate
heads.

This document will be received by the great
mass of our citizens—it will be received with
joy and welcome, as the harbinger of a
new era of retrenchment and reform. It is
very evident that our city government, so lavish
in its expenditure, have caught a Tartar in the
person of Mr. Flagg. He knows too much of
finance, human nature, and the laws, to be
humbled—he is too upright to be swayed by
improper influences, and too brave to be affected
by threats or intimidation. He is just the kind
of man the people wanted for the office of Comptroller,
and, on their part, we must protest against
General Pierce taking him to Washing-
ton to fill the office of Secretary of the Treas-
ury, not because he is not thoroughly com-
petent, but because he cannot be spared from New
York. No doubt the City Hall is like the Au-
gustan stable; but Mr. Flagg is a very Hercules
of a reformer, and by continuing to direct the
stream of his facts and figures through the seat
of corruption, he will soon have accomplished a
labor as great as that of the son of Jove; and
the result will be that he will win the confi-
dence and earn the gratitude of an injured
people.

The Comptroller goes back to first principles;
he goes to the charter of 1849, to the charter of
1830, to the convention that led to it, and the
causes that led to the convention, which,
strange to say, were the very same as
those that now call forth the scathing animad-
versions in the report, with this difference—
that then the evils were as mere molehills
compared with the huge mountains that at present
appal the tax-payers, and which it requires
something more than faith to remove. The
people, in 1830, imagined that they had ample
security in the charter against the recurrence of the
wrongs inflicted upon them by the "city fathers"
of that day. A few years' experience, however,
taught them that this charter could be violated
and evaded; and they sought additional security
in the charter of 1849, which distinctly sepa-
rates the legislative from the executive func-
tions, but which have been ever since, in prac-
tice, confounded by the usurpations of the Com-
mon Council, just as if no charter existed. Its
provisions have been evaded and violated so
systematically that the people are now calling
for some new guarantees, in the shape of amend-
ments to the charter, and some additional checks
upon the wild career of public profligacy. But
what security is there that the new provisions,
if they should be adopted, will not be trampled
under foot like the old? What is wanted is
not so much new laws as the faithful adminis-
tration of those we already possess. Laws have
been piled upon laws, like Pelion upon
Ossa, but all to no effect, because, practically,
they have been permitted to remain a dead let-
ter. The laws that have been passed have
been aimed rather at the effects than the causes,
and have not reached the evil at its source.
In the primary elections and the police
system, which have hitherto defeated all
the laws, by preventing the right kind of men
being elected to administer them. It is true,
that once in a long time such a man as Mr.
Flagg turns up; but it is more an acci-
dent than anything else, and he is an ex-
ception to the general rule. He may ac-
complish a great deal if he continues for his
term of three years in office; but he may not
be elected again, or he may not wish to be a
candidate again, and the good that he achieves
will therefore be only temporary, unless there
is some organic change which will go to the
root of the evil, securing the election of men of
the same stamp for that and other offices, and
taking away both the temptation and the power to
do wrong upon an extensive scale.

The Comptroller shows, among other things,
the illegality of mulcting the city for extra
compensation to the Judges of the Supreme
Court, who are State Judges, and he accordingly
declines to pay Judge Edmonds' bill for \$750,
unless the spirits from the other world order
him to do so. It is worthy of remark, that in
1845 the salaries of the Judges of the Superior
Court, who are County Judges, only amounted
to \$7,500; now they amount to \$24,000, besides
\$3,500 for a City Judge—in all \$27,500. The
Comptroller also exposes the gross injustice
done to the city by the operation of the Free
School law, which compels it to pay a special
school tax after contributing so heavily to the
general school tax of the State. In 1829 the
city only paid under this head \$10,823, in
1845 the tax amounted to \$150,000. This
year there is a requisition for \$794,706. It

will be seen, by reference to the report, that six
counties do not pay half as much as New York,
though they receive far more from the school
fund. The free school act is, therefore, in this
respect, a violation of the principle of equal tax-
ation.

The observations of the Comptroller on city
railroads are excellent. He very properly con-
tends that the city ought to receive a *quid pro*
quo, in low fares, and by the repair of the
streets; and he also holds that if the grade
of the street is regulated for the convenience of
the railroad, the company, and not the public,
ought to pay for this additional expense.

It will be seen that items amounting to over
\$51,000 have been illegally contracted for.
They are as follows:—

Reception of Kosuth.	\$10,085 14
Henry Clay's funeral.	15,841 35
Daniel Webster's funeral.	6,447 35
Tea room.	9,672 82
Claim unpaid for Kosuth's banquet.	\$48,046 81
	5,659 09
	\$53,705 81

We have, also, reason to know that members
of the Common Council have illegally charged
for carriage hire, when not on the business of
the city government; and the Comptroller up
to the present has steadily refused to pay the
bills, unless vouched on oath. The expenses
of the tea room are enormous. Just think of
\$9,672 in one year, after the Common Council
receiving in lieu of banqueting \$4 per day. In
future, if they must have canvas back ducks,
brandy and segars, they will have to pay for
such good living themselves. The tea room
stands abolished.

Mr. Flagg exposes the illegality of making
contracts, and drawing money out of the city
treasury, unless appropriations shall have been
previously made for the purposes specified.
The violations of the law, in this respect, have
been of the most daring description. More-
over, "the detailed statement of receipts and
expenditures" for the year, required by the
charter to be published two months before the
annual election for charter officers, has not been
given to the people. On all hands the law has
been violated, and taxation is swelling from
year to year to the most enormous dimensions.
Neither the Common Council, nor any of its
committees, have a right to make contracts or
audit accounts. This executive business has
been expressly taken from them by the charter,
and assigned to the heads of departments. The
Comptroller is determined to take the finance
business out of the hands of the Aldermen, and
to enforce the charter.

We recently published a tabular statement
showing the increase of taxation from the year
1835 to the present time. Mr. Flagg goes back
ten years further, as will be seen by the im-
portant table, No. 14, appended to his report. The
following being the first and last items of the
table, will show the tremendous progress of
taxation in twenty-five years:—

Year	Real Estate	Personal	Total
1826	\$64,804,650	\$42,324,931	\$107,129,581
1831	\$68,278,384	\$45,949,942	\$114,228,326
1836	\$72,378,384	\$49,499,942	\$121,878,326
1841	\$76,378,384	\$53,499,942	\$130,878,326
1846	\$80,378,384	\$57,499,942	\$137,878,326
1851	\$84,378,384	\$61,499,942	\$145,878,326
1856	\$88,378,384	\$65,499,942	\$153,878,326
1861	\$92,378,384	\$69,499,942	\$161,878,326
1866	\$96,378,384	\$73,499,942	\$169,878,326
1871	\$100,378,384	\$77,499,942	\$177,878,326
1876	\$104,378,384	\$81,499,942	\$185,878,326
1881	\$108,378,384	\$85,499,942	\$193,878,326
1886	\$112,378,384	\$89,499,942	\$201,878,326
1891	\$116,378,384	\$93,499,942	\$209,878,326
1896	\$120,378,384	\$97,499,942	\$217,878,326
1901	\$124,378,384	\$101,499,942	\$225,878,326
1906	\$128,378,384	\$105,499,942	\$233,878,326
1911	\$132,378,384	\$109,499,942	\$241,878,326
1916	\$136,378,384	\$113,499,942	\$249,878,326
1921	\$140,378,384	\$117,499,942	\$257,878,326
1926	\$144,378,384	\$121,499,942	\$265,878,326
1931	\$148,378,384	\$125,499,942	\$273,878,326
1936	\$152,378,384	\$129,499,942	\$281,878,326
1941	\$156,378,384	\$133,499,942	\$289,878,326
1946	\$160,378,384	\$137,499,942	\$297,878,326
1951	\$164,378,384	\$141,499,942	\$305,878,326
1956	\$168,378,384	\$145,499,942	\$313,878,326
1961	\$172,378,384	\$149,499,942	\$321,878,326
1966	\$176,378,384	\$153,499,942	\$329,878,326
1971	\$180,378,384	\$157,499,942	\$337,878,326
1976	\$184,378,384	\$161,499,942	\$345,878,326
1981	\$188,378,384	\$165,499,942	\$353,878,326
1986	\$192,378,384	\$169,499,942	\$361,878,326
1991	\$196,378,384	\$173,499,942	\$369,878,326
1996	\$200,378,384	\$177,499,942	\$377,878,326
2001	\$204,378,384	\$181,499,942	\$385,878,326
2006	\$208,378,384	\$185,499,942	\$393,878,326
2011	\$212,378,384	\$189,499,942	\$401,878,326
2016	\$216,378,384	\$193,499,942	\$409,878,326
2021	\$220,378,384	\$197,499,942	\$417,878,326
2026	\$224,378,384	\$201,499,942	\$425,878,326
2031	\$228,378,384	\$205,499,942	\$433,878,326
2036	\$232,378,384	\$209,499,942	\$441,878,326
2041	\$236,378,384	\$213,499,942	\$449,878,326
2046	\$240,378,384	\$217,499,942	\$457,878,326
2051	\$244,378,384	\$221,499,942	\$465,878,326
2056	\$248,378,384	\$225,499,942	\$473,878,326
2061	\$252,378,384	\$229,499,942	\$481,878,326
2066	\$256,378,384	\$233,499,942	\$489,878,326
2071	\$260,378,384	\$237,499,942	\$497,878,326
2076	\$264,378,384	\$241,499,942	\$505,878,326
2081	\$268,378,384	\$245,499,942	\$513,878,326
2086	\$272,378,384	\$249,499,942	\$521,878,326
2091	\$276,378,384	\$253,499,942	\$529,878,326
2096	\$280,378,384	\$257,499,942	\$537,878,326
2101	\$284,378,384	\$261,499,942	\$545,878,326
2106	\$288,378,384	\$265,499,942	\$553,878,326
2111	\$292,378,384	\$269,499,942	\$561,878,326
2116	\$296,378,384	\$273,499,942	\$569,878,326
2121	\$300,378,384	\$277,499,942	\$577,878,326
2126	\$304,378,384	\$281,499,942	\$585,878,326
2131	\$308,378,384	\$285,499,942	\$593,878,326
2136	\$312,378,384	\$289,499,942	\$601,878,326
2141	\$316,378,384	\$293,499,942	\$609,878,326
2146	\$320,378,384	\$297,499,942	\$617,878,326
2151	\$324,378,384	\$301,499,942	\$625,878,326
2156	\$328,378,384	\$305,499,942	\$633,878,326
2161	\$332,378,384	\$309,499,942	\$641,878,326
2166	\$336,378,384	\$313,499,942	\$649,878,326
2171	\$340,378,384	\$317,499,942	\$657,878,326
2176	\$344,378,384	\$321,499,942	\$665,878,326
2181	\$348,378,384	\$325,499,942	\$673,878,326
2186	\$352,378,384	\$329,499,942	\$681,878,326
2191	\$356,378,384	\$333,499,942	\$689,878,326
2196	\$360,378,384	\$337,499,942	\$697,878,326
2201	\$364,378,384	\$341,499,942	\$705,878,326
2206	\$368,378,384	\$345,499,942	\$713,878,326
2211	\$372,378,384	\$349,499,942	\$721,878,326
2216	\$376,378,384	\$353,499,942	\$729,878,326
2221	\$380,378,384	\$357,499,942	\$737,878,326
2226	\$384,378,384	\$361,499,942	\$745,878,326
2231	\$388,378,384	\$365,499,942	\$753,878,326
2236	\$392,378,384	\$369,499,942	\$761,878,326
2241	\$396,378,384	\$373,499,942	\$769,878,326
2246	\$400,378,384	\$377,499,942	\$777,878,326
2251	\$404,378,384	\$381,499,942	\$785,878,326
2256	\$408,378,384	\$385,499,942	\$793,878,326
2261	\$412,378,384	\$389,499,942	\$801,878,326